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NASHVILLE, TN 37219

Paper No. 7

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In re Application of:
Hollis, et al.
Application No. 09/736,555
Filed: December 13, 2000
Attorney Docket No. N-6732

:
: DECISION GRANTING
: PETITION
:
:

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

This is a decision on the petition filed July 20, 2001, requesting that the above-identified application be accorded a filing date of December 13, 2000, rather than the presently accorded filing date of March 15, 2001.

A review of the original application papers shows that the papers were stamped in the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with a December 13, 2000 Office generated barcode. The Office of Initial Patent Examination found the original papers to be complete for filing date purposes, as was stated in the Notice to File Corrected Application Papers, mailed February 21, 2001. Therefore, the filing date of the application is the date shown on the Office generated barcode or "Office Date" stamp. See MPEP 505. Obviously, the March 15, 2001 filing date shown on applicants' updated filing receipt, mailed June 29, 2001, is a typographical error.

Accordingly, the petition is granted. No petition fee is required and none has been charged.

The application is being returned to the Office of Initial Patent Examination for mailing of a corrected filing receipt and correction of PTO records to show the filing date of the application as December 13, 2000, not March 15, 2001.

Telephone inquiries pertaining to this matter may be directed to Petitions Attorney E. Shirene Willis at (703) 308-6712.

Beverly M. Flanagan
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for Patent Examination Policy